--- 1/20th Pound - “Series of 1883” - BLUE - 155 x 14 mm. ---

Under the **3rd BABN Contract** (1878-1886) John McKay records as ‘delivered’ 395,525 copies (*recess printed* by hand press) of “1-20, Blue Ribbon, Cigarettes”. The Lee Brandom catalogue ***does not list*** a blue 1/20th pound 1883 cigarette strip, and nowhere in his listing does John McKay record the *recess printing* of “1-20th lb. (‘83) Blue, Tobacco” strips. I feel that McKay has confused the Cigarette and the Tobacco strips, and that these strips should have been listed as “1-20, Blue, Tobacco”.

Lee Brandom lists only the control-free strip, but the collection contains the following copy of **RP-603**, using red control numbers, fitting very well into the John McKay recorded ‘delivery’ of 395,525 strips.

3rd BABN Contract - October 22nd 1878 395,525 recess (hand press) **000001** to **395525**

The catalogue lists the recess printed “Series of 1883” blue 1/20th pound strip as follows:

RP-603 - 1/20th pound, blue, perforated 12, on vertical mesh wove, with 4 mm. Roman red control numbers

RP-603n - 1/20th pound, perforated 12, without control numbering
Recess printed by hand press on vertical mesh wove paper

1/20th pound, perforated 12, with Gothic ***4 mm. violet control*** number **217547**,
Recess printed on vertical mesh wove paper - ***from the collection of Fritz Angst***

All of the stamps bearing 4 mm. Gothic ***violet control*** numbers seem to come from the “Series of 1883”. In a similar parallel, all of the stamps bearing 5 mm. Roman ***light blue controls*** seem to come from the “Series of 1880-81”. I feel that the former strips were prepared by BABN for Philatelic Exhibitions in mid-1880’s, and the latter for an exhibition in the early-1880’s. Only a few of the 1883 examples are found on *block watermarked* paper which indicates that they were an early printing.

There are a couple dozen examples in the collection most of which came from the “Ferrari” collection purchased from Erling van Dam. All of the stamps in the “Ferrari” collection pre-dated 1900.

--- 1/20th Pound - “Series of 1883” - BLUE - 155 x 14 mm. - 3rd BABN Contract (1878-1886) ---

--- Recess printed by hand press in “Montreal” on vertical mesh wove paper - with 4 mm. red controls ---

--- RP-603 - perforated 12 - scanned at 100% scale ---

RP-603 - 1/20th pound, perforated 12, with 4 mm. control number **249959**,
Recess printed in Montreal on vertical mesh wove paper - cancelled **22 ‘86** in May 1886

249959★	05/86	RP-603	1/20th pound, perforated 12, printed by hand press on vertical mesh wove

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File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RP_STAMPS \ 1883 \ Blue \ 1-20 pound - 155 mm],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
September 25th 2013 - JBH